Attorney Docket:

852/48375 PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KONRAD WEGENER ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/443,456

Group Art Unit: 3722

Filed: NOVEMBER 19, 1999

Examiner: Unassigned

Title: FORMING SYSTEM AND PROCESS



## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98

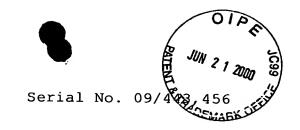
Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR \$1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

References listed as AA, AB and AI on Sheet 1 of the attached form PTO-1449 were cited in a corresponding foreign Search Report. A copy of the Search Report, with partial English translation, is also enclosed. U.S. equivalents are submitted in lieu of EP 0 547 190 (U.S. 5,140,839) and DE 39 05 069 (U.S. 5,012,665).

All references which had been cited in the specification (or their U.S. equivalents) are now submitted. U.S. Patent No. 4,698,480 corresponds to DE 34 10 913, and U.S. Patent No. 4,201,905 corresponds to EP 0 008 773. German Patent DE 28 01 475, with an English language abstract, is also enclosed.



The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. \$1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R.  $\S1.97(d)(2)$  and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #852/48375).

Respectfully submitted,

June 21, 2000

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